

THIS DOCUMENT REFERS TO PHASE 2 OF MONTANA'S REOPENING, BEGINNING JUNE 1. THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE IS WAITING TO SEE THE IMPACT OF PHASE 2 BEFORE CONSIDERING A DATE FOR PHASE 3.

Restaurant/Bar/Brewery/Distillery/Casino Guidance

What is the required closure time for bars, restaurants, casinos, distilleries and breweries?

As of November 20, restaurants, bars and casinos will be required to close their doors and have all patrons out by 10:00 p.m. Businesses may reopen after 4 a.m. Breweries and distilleries shall follow existing laws on closing time.

Why is there an earlier closing time than 2 a.m. for bars?

As of November 20, a 10pm-4am closing time is instated ~~The 12:30 a.m. closing time is~~ to protect public health and lessen the spread of the virus. The recommendation for an earlier closing time before 2 a.m. was suggested by both health officials and industry representatives when the Montana reopening plan was developed in late April. ~~In Phase 2, the closing time was extended from 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.~~

Does the 25 person limit on public gatherings apply to bars, restaurants, breweries, distilleries, and casinos?

No, Capacity in all restaurants, bars, breweries, distilleries, and casinos must be limited to 50 percent of normal operating capacity to allow for adequate group spacing.

Is bar seating open during phase 2?

Yes, but there is no bar seating within 6 feet of a well or taps, an area where drinks are passed to servers, ice machines, or other areas used to prepare or serve food or beverages. Patrons should maintain 6 feet of social distancing, shared/community items should be eliminated and commonly touched surfaces should be frequently cleaned/disinfected.

Is restaurant counter seating "bar seating"?

Yes, these guidelines apply to for bar seating in restaurants, breweries, distilleries, and bars

Are there specific guidelines for poker rooms?

Beginning Friday June 5, 2020 poker rooms are allowed in Phase 2 with the same goals of the bar seating with the following specifications:

- 1) Poker rooms must require everyone to sanitize their hands upon entering or reentering the card room
- 2) Limit the number of available seats to six players in order to create some spacing between them
- 3) Players will verbalize all bets and the dealer will physically handle all chip transactions
- 4) All poker staff will wear masks, poker staff will sanitize and or wash hands in between each cash transaction
- 5) Poker staff will sanitize tables, chairs, chips and cards with disinfectant products every day and they will use steam for the fabric on the chairs and the vinyl covering on the tables

What are the social distancing guidelines for ~~bar~~ seating?

Establishments must provide for 6 feet of physical distancing between groups and or tables by:

- o Increasing table spacing, removing tables, or marking tables as closed;
- o Providing for a physical barrier between tables; or
- o Back-to-back booth seating provides adequate separation.

Bars stools should be spaced 6 feet apart. If a group of 6 or less comes in and requests to be seated together, a staff member can group seat together and then re-space to 6ft once the group leaves.